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NSC BRIEFING

30 October 1960

UAR-JORDAN

- I. Relations between the UAR and Jordan may be reaching a critical phase. Acute strains were caused by the assassination of Jordanian Prime Minister Majalli on 29 August and by the subsequent deployment of troops on both sides of the Jordanian-Syrian frontier. The situation eased somewhat in late September and early October when both Nasir and King Husayn were attending UN meetings in New York, but it has taken a sharp turn for the worse since their return home.
- A. The two leaders have been engaging in extraordinarily strong verbal warfare, the propaganda organs of each country have been openly urging rebellion, and both sides have closed down border traffic.

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- II. If such UAR operations were successful and pro-UAR elements moved to seize power in Jordan, Israeli military intervention would be likely.

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